

# *Standby Requirements for Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) Conditions*

WAC 296-842-190

## *Summary*

### **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY:**

**To provide adequate assistance to employees using respirators in conditions immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH)**

### **You must**

Provide standby assistance in immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) conditions

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Standby  
Requirements



# Standby Requirements for Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) Conditions

WAC 296-842-190

## Rule

### RULE WAC 296-842-19005

#### Provide standby assistance in immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) conditions

#### Important:

WISHA currently uses the IDLH values in the 1990 NIOSH *Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards* to determine the existence of IDLH conditions. You may use more recent editions of this guide. Visit [www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh) for more information.

#### You must

- Provide at least 2 standby employees outside the IDLH area.



#### Note:

You need only one standby employee **if** the IDLH condition is well characterized, will remain stable **and** you can show one employee can adequately do **all** of the following:

- Monitor employees in the IDLH area
  - Implement communication
  - Initiate rescue duties.
- Train and equip standby employees to provide effective emergency rescue. Equip them with:
    - A pressure-demand SCBA or a pressure-demand air-line respirator with an auxiliary SCBA, for each standby employee
    - Appropriate retrieval equipment, when it would help with the effective rescue of the entrant, or an equivalent means of rescue
  - Make sure standby employees maintain visual, voice, or signal line communication with employees in the IDLH area
  - Make sure that in the event of an emergency:
    - Standby employees notify you or your designee before they enter the IDLH area to provide emergency rescue
    - You provide necessary assistance when notified

